



May 9, 2019

Joshua Mahoney
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
1685 E Street
Fresno, CA 93706

Re: Comments regarding the Tentative Order for Hathaway, LLC, Kern-Tulare Water District, and Jasmin Ranchos Mutual Water Company

Dear Mr. Mahoney,

On behalf of the Greater Bakersfield Chamber of Commerce, a business organization representing over 1,100 businesses, which collectively employ more than 70,000 Californians, I am writing to express our support for the tentative order for Hathaway, LLC, Kern-Tulare Water District and Jasmin Ranchos Mutual Water Company, which would expand on the existing waste discharge requirements for the blended produced water project.

This source of water continues to be an innovative solution to supplement the water supply that supports farming operations in Kern County, which is a drought-prone region. Clean and reliable water supply benefits agricultural operations and the citizens of Kern County with jobs and tax revenues that bolster our economy. Much of the revenue generated from this facility accounts for Hathaway being in the top-20 tax payers in the Delano school system. It also provides much needed ground water sustainability in a basin that is in severe overdraft.

In addition to the long-term beneficial reuse of blended produced water, the tentative order also stipulates important safeguards that will help assure existing groundwater quality is not negatively impacted, that the parameters of the Food Safety Expert Panel are met and that environmental safety continues to be maintained. Transparency of these results through the tentative WDR/MRP process ensures that the parameters set by both the Regional Water Quality Control Board and the Food Safety Expert Panel are being achieved, and that laboratory results are available for review by interested parties.

We appreciate The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board staff's thoroughness in their review and guidance throughout the amendment process. The approval of this tentative order will continue this beneficial project and allow the dischargers to remain compliant in an ever changing regulatory environment.

For these reasons, we support the tentative order.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kaelyn Peterson". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Kaelyn Peterson
Manager, Policy and Public Affairs
Greater Bakersfield Chamber of Commerce